

available in the Economic Survey 1999-2000, the total export of Basic Chemicals and Plastic Linoleum products during the year 1998-99 was of the value of Rs. 14,188 crore.

(b) While it cannot be said with certainty that the establishment of dedicated industrial estates for the chemical industry will result in a quantum jump in production and export earnings. It can be reasonably expected that with the availability of the necessary infrastructure and the resulting synergies, the companies located in such industrial estates would be more favourably placed to face global competition.

(c) and (d) The concept of developing mega chemical industrial estates is in the process of being evolved. The investment decisions would be made by the individual units involved.

Pollution by Steel Factories

291. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether environment is being polluted by steel factories in the public and private sectors;

(b) if so, the names of places where pollution checking plants have been installed during the last three years in those factories and the amount spent thereon;

(c) in which steel factories pollution control plants are planned to be installed; and

(d) by when such schemes would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) Certain units of steel plants have been posing pollution problems, for which pollution control facilities have been upgraded or renovated, covering the following steel plants:

1. Bokaro Steel Plant — Bokaro
2. Rourkela Steel Plant — Rourkela
3. Durgapur Steel Plant — Durgapur

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

4. Bhilai Steel Plant — Bhilai
5. Indian Iron & Steel Company — Burnpur
6. Tata Iron & Steel Company — Jamshedpur
7. Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant — Vishakhapatnam

The steel plants have spent over Rs. 2,000 crores for pollution control measures. In pursuance of standards notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, the steel plants having coke ovens are required to improve emission control facilities by 2001.

Disaster Warning Centres

* 292. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the location of each of the disaster warning centres functioning presently in the country;
- (b) whether Government propose to set some more such centres;
- (c) if so, the sites selected therefor; and
- (d) the details of the proposal to seek technical know-how and equipments from other countries?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The Indian sub-continent is affected by different natural disasters like cyclones, floods, avalanches, earthquakes and landslides. Some of these disasters like floods, cyclones and avalanches are amenable to prediction/forecast. Accordingly, warning centres have been set up by the concerned agencies as per the following details:—

	Location	Agency
(1) Cyclones	Calcutta Bhubaneswar Visakhapatnam Chennai Mumbai Ahmedabad	IMD, DST